

## Mayor ANDREW PRZYBYLO

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April 18, 2019

The Honorable J.B. Pritzker Office of the Governor 207 State House Springfield, IL 62706

Dear Governor Pritzker,

This letter is to request your support intervening in a longstanding and unsettling public safety trend. State and County regional arterial roads in the Village of Niles have crash rates higher than all of suburban Cook County. Since 2014, vehicle and pedestrian collisions in the Village of Niles have resulted in 15 severe and 10 fatal crashes.

The Village of Niles' 2014 Bicycle & Pedestrian Plan, completed through a grant from the Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning (CMAP), states that "severe or fatal crashes (in Niles) occurred primarily on major (regional) roads, particularly Milwaukee, Golf, Dempster, Oakton, Touhy, and Greenwood." To view a growing news trend, simply Google "pedestrian crash Niles Illinois" to view pages of recent articles. These recent fatal crashes have continued to take place along Niles' major regional roads.

Our Village finds itself at a critical moment where lives are being lost and solutions are seemingly out of our hands due to financial, logistical and jurisdictional constraints. We humbly but emphatically request assistance through the Illinois Department of Transportation to develop solutions for the issue of pedestrian safety along regional arterial roadways in the Village of Niles. I, along with staff, stand ready to meet with you and/or your staff to discuss current data and possible solutions to this crisis.

Thank you for taking the time to consider this request.

Sincerely,

Andrew Przybylo

Mayor

Cc: State Senator Ram Villivalam, 8<sup>th</sup> District

State Senator John G. Mulroe, 10<sup>th</sup> District

State Representative John D'Amico, 15th District

State Representative Michael P. McAuliffe, 20th District